

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03 MC-02  
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PRS-01 DHA-02 ACDA-07  
TRSE-00 IO-13 OIC-02 EB-08 NRC-05 ERDA-05 USIA-06  
/100 W

-----231751Z 097711 /41

R 231216Z APR 77  
FM USMISSION NATO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3127  
SECDEF WASHDC  
INFO CINCLANT  
USCINCEUR  
USLOSACLANT  
USNMR SHAPE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 2374

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MPOL, NATO  
SUBJECT: MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE 1977: PROPOSED POSITION FOR DPC REVIEW  
W

REF: (A) USNATO 2373 (DTG 231215Z APR 77)  
(B) USNATO 2333 (DTG 221124Z APR 77)

SUMMARY: DEFENSE PLANNING COMMITTEE (DPC) WILL CONSIDER  
DRAFT MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE 1977 (REF A) ON 28 APRIL. AT  
THIS SESSION WE PROPOSE (A) TO HOLD FIRM ON "AT LEAST 3 M/M"  
REAL ANNUAL INCREASE OF RESOURCE GUIDANCE (RETAINING  
BRACKETS FOR MINISTERIAL DECISION IF NECESSARY); AND (B)  
IF UNABLE TO ATTRACT FURTHER SUPPORT FOR THE SECTION ON  
GUIDANCE TO PERMREPS, TO AGREE TO THE DELETION  
OF THIS SECTION ON THE UNDERSTANDING THAT ITS THRUST WOULD  
BE INCORPORATED IN A COVER NOTE FROM SYG LUNS. ACTION  
REQUESTED: GUIDANCE BY CLOSE OF BUSINESS, APRIL 27. END SUMMARY.

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1. GENERAL. WE BELIEVE THAT DRAFT MINISTERIAL  
GUIDANCE 1977 ESSENTIALLY MEETS WASHINGTON GUIDANCE.  
THE DRAFT IDENTIFIES CRITICAL DEFICIENCIES IN ALLIANCE  
DEFENSES, EMPHASIZES CONVENTIONAL FORCE IMPROVEMENTS,  
ESTABLISHES A STRONG CASE FOR REDOUBLED EFFORTS TO  
INCREASE ALLIANCE COOPERATION AND SETS FORTH CLEAR  
ALTERNATIVE RESOURCE FORMULAE. DURING 28 APRIL DPC  
REVIEW OF THIS DOCUMENT WE PROPOSE, THEREFORE, TO  
AVOID DRAFTING DETAILS AND ELEVATE THE LEVEL OF  
DISCUSSION TO FOCUS ON THE NEED FOR A STRONG RESOURCE

FORMULA TO PROVIDE THE FUNDING BASIS FOR CRITICALLY  
NEEDED FORCE IMPROVEMENTS.

2. RESOURCES.

(A) PARA 42 CONTAINS A RANGE OF ALTERNATIVE RESOURCE  
FORMULAS:

- "OF AT LEAST 3 PERCENT"
- "OF 3-5 PERCENT"
- "APPROACHING 3 PERCENT"
- "OF UP TO 5 PERCENT"

(B) AT GERMANY'S INSISTENCE, THE DRAFT ALSO CONTAINS A  
SEPARATE ALTERNATIVE RESOURCE SECTION (SECOND SET OF PARAS  
42 AND 43), WHICH (I) WOULD NOT REQUIRE INCREASES IN REAL  
TERMS, TO WIT: COUNTRIES ARE ASKED "TO MAINTAIN THEIR  
PRESENT LEVEL OF DEFENSE EXPENDITURES AS A MINIMUM AND  
TO STRIVE FOR URGENTLY NEEDED INCREASES IN REAL TERMS;"  
AND (II) WOULD INTRODUCE SEVERAL ADDITIONAL CRITERIA  
OF DEFENSE EFFORT. IN VIEW OF THE FRG'S TOTAL ISOLATION IN THE DRC  
ON THIS LANGUAGE (PARA 11, REF B) WE UNDER-  
STAND, INFORMALLY, THAT BONN IS PREPARED TO WITHDRAW AT  
THE APRIL 28 DPC AND SUPPORT THE "UP TO 5 PERCENT"  
FORMULATION.

(C) AT THE DPC WE PROPOSE TO STAND FIRM ON THE  
FORMULA "OF AT LEAST 3 PERCENT," RETAINING THIS IN  
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BRACKETS, IF NECESSARY, TO MINISTERIAL LEVEL, THEREBY  
PROVIDING AN APPROPRIATE PLATFORM FOR SECRETARY BROWN  
TO STRESS THE NEED FOR INCREASED LEVELS OF RESOURCES  
ALLOCATED TO DEFENSE AND THAT PLANNED US INCREASES WILL  
DEPEND ON SOME DEGREE OF RECIPROCAL EUROPEAN EFFORT.

(D) AT THE LAST MOMENT IN DRC REVIEW OF DRAFT 77  
GUIDANCE, THE DUTCH REINTRODUCED " AND" IN THE FIRST "TIC"  
UNDER PARA 42, WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF WEAKENING THE CALL  
FOR ADDITIONAL EFFORT FROM NATIONS BELOW NATO EUROPE  
AVERAGE. THE DUTCH WERE TOTALLY ISOLATED AND, SHOULD THEY  
RETAIN THIS STAND AT THE DPC, WE EXPECT THAT THEY WILL  
REMAIN A MINORITY OF ONE. WE PROPOSE, THEREFORE, TO HOLD  
TO "OR."

3. GUIDANCE TO DPC IN PERMANENT SESSION. ONLY CANADA  
FIRMLY SUPPORTS OUR POSITION ON THIS ISSUE. THOUGH OUR  
PRIMARY OBJECTIVE IN PROPOSING GUIDANCE TO THE DPC IS  
TO PUSH THE SLUGGISH NATO BUREAUCRACY TO FOLLOW-UP ON  
THE INITIATIVES CONTAINED IN 77 GUIDANCE, MOST ALLIES  
STRONGLY OPPOSE THIS SECTION ON THE GROUNDS THAT IT  
IS (A) -INSULTING" TO PERMREPS (IMPLYING THAT THEY ARE  
NOT DOING THEIR JOBS) AND (B) WOULD BE A DEPARTURE FROM  
PAST PRACTICE AND DPC/D(71)10 PROCEDURES. IF UNABLE TO

ATTRACT A CONSENSUS FOR THIS SECTION, WE PROPOSE TO  
WITHDRAW WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THE THRUST OF OUR  
PROPOSED GUIDANCE BE INCORPORATED IN A COVER NOTE TO  
77 GUIDANCE FROM SYG LUNS.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON CONCURRENCE IN OUR  
PROPOSED APPROACH BY CLOSE OF BUSINESS, APRIL 27.PEREZ

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 30-Aug-1999 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977NATO02374  
**Document Source:** ADS  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** 11652 GDS  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** NATO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t197704102/baaabddn.tel  
**Line Count:** 119  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
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**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** (A) USNATO 2373 (DTG 231215Z APR 77) (B) USNATO 2333 (DTG 221124Z APR 77)  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2667017  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE 1977: PROPOSED POSITION FOR DPC REVIE W  
**TAGS:** MPOL, NATO  
**To:** STATE SECDEF MULTIPLE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/cbfcb39b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009